

After almost one year of the use of the official triplicate form of narcotic prescriptions, we found that we could make certain changes that would remove from the official forms some drugs that were not habit-forming, in the dosage usually prescribed by the doctors. Effective September 13, 1941, Ethyl-Morphine, commonly known as Dionin, Lead and Opium Wash, Apomorphine, Stokes Expectant, Brown's Mixture, Syrup of Cocillana Compound, and all other preparations containing not more than two grains of opium to the fluid or avoirdupois ounce, will be written on the old form of prescription, and not on the official triplicate blanks. Straight Codeine (tablet or powder form) and Tincture of Opii Camphorated (Paregoric) when not compounded with other ingredients will be written on the official blanks.

We were requested by the chiroprodists to broaden the provisions of our narcotic laws to permit approximately one hundred of their members to purchase narcotics on the Federal Order Forms and to prescribe drugs commonly used for external treatment of the feet. After the effective date of the new law, the chiroprodists will be entitled to the use of those drugs that are necessary in their practice.

For several years past there has been a need for emergency supplies of narcotics in many of our small private institutions, and Section 11331.5 of the Code was amended in order to permit an emergency supply in hospitals which do not employ a resident pharmacist and which hospitals are under the supervision of a licensed physician. This supply may be purchased by the superintendent, a licensed physician, on his Federal Order Form and administered by a registered nurse or nurses under his direction. The prevalence of automobile accidents in the remote sections of our State where narcotics were needed for immediate use necessitated this change in our law. The fact that narcotics were not immediately available caused unnecessary suffering to the injured while the supply was being ordered from some other source.

Enclosed herewith please find a draft of the sections as amended in the Health and Safety Code relative to habit-forming drugs.

I would sincerely appreciate your courtesy in publicizing these new regulations to the members of the medical profession through the CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE journal.

(Signed) PAUL E. MADDEN,
Chief, Division of Narcotic Enforcement.

(COPY)

DIVISION OF NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PAUL E. MADDEN, Chief

New Legislation Pertaining to Issuing Narcotic Prescriptions

Effective September 13, 1941

Instructions to Those Authorized to Issue Prescriptions for Narcotic Drugs in the State of California

In the last session of the State Legislature (fifty-fourth session, 1941), that part of Division X of the Health and Safety Code which pertains to the writing of narcotic prescriptions was amended in the following particulars:

Section 11166.12 of the Code was amended to read as follows:

The provisions of this code, with reference to the writing of narcotic prescriptions on official triplicate blanks and the filling thereof, do not apply to any preparations containing codeine or to preparations containing not more than two grains of opium to the fluid or avoirdupois ounce, without additional narcotics when compounded with other medicinal ingredients or to preparations containing apomorphine hydrochloride, or ethylmorphine hydrochloride (dionin), prescribed in writing in good faith for medicinal purposes only.

When codeine, or tincture opii camphorata (paregoric) is not compounded with other ingredients, it shall be prescribed on the official blanks.

Section 11200 of the Code was amended to read as follows:

The provisions of this division requiring prescriptions and physicians' reports do not apply to preparations or to remedies or prescriptions sold or prescribed in good faith for medicinal purposes only and not for the purpose of satisfying addiction, containing not more than one grain of codeine in one fluidounce without additional narcotics, or not more than ten grains of chloralhydrate in one fluidounce, or two grains of cannabis sativa in one fluidounce, or, if a solid preparation, in one ounce avoirdupois.

Section 11331.5 of the Code was amended to read as follows:

In order to provide a supply of narcotics as may be necessary to handle emergency cases, any hospital which does not employ a resident pharmacist and which is under the supervision of a licensed physician, may purchase narcotics on Federal order forms for said institution, under the name of said licensed physician, said supply to be made available to a registered nurse for administration to patients in emergency cases, upon direction of a licensed physician.

A report showing the kind and amount of narcotics purchased on the Federal order form shall be forwarded, by registered mail, to the Division of Narcotic Enforcement, at the time such narcotics are purchased.

In all other respects the law, of course, remains the same as heretofore.

Physicians specializing in conditions of the eye, ear and nose, please note the first amendment referred to—that of Section 11166.12, with reference to Dionin.

All physicians should note the preparations which do not require the triplicate form of blank. The Narcotic Division has been receiving a great number of prescriptions which do not require the triplicate form. This only adds to the work of the Division as well as the prescriber and the druggist.

Relative to the drugs and preparations referred to under Section 11166.12: It will be noted that the drugs and preparations therein included are not to be prescribed on the triplicate narcotic prescription blank. *However, a regular prescription blank must be used when prescribing such drugs and preparations.*

Copies of the Narcotic Act will be furnished by the Narcotic Division upon request. For information address:

San Francisco office, 156 State Building. Telephone, UNDERhill 8700.

Los Angeles office, 102 State Building. Telephone, Mutual 3804.

Concerning Address of G. W. Crile, M. D., to Humboldt County Medical Society.

To the Editor:—The Humboldt County Medical Society held a special dinner for Dr. G. W. Crile on Saturday night, August 2, 1941. Doctor Crile, Mrs. Crile, and his associates, Dr. D. B. Quaring and Mr. James Barrett, attended. Doctors Crile and Quaring gave a review of their book, "Intelligence, Power, and Personality," to be published in September, 1941.

They dissected and studied the organs of four whales in Eureka. This was the culmination of fourteen of effort in which time nearly four thousand animals from mouse to the whale were dissected. The relationship between the sizes of different animals, their degree of activity and their organs were explained. Their studies were mainly with the brain, thyroid gland, and celiac ganglion.

The talk was given in easily understandable language, and all those present were inspired by the personality of Doctor Crile. Our society feels indeed fortunate in being afforded the opportunity to act as host for Doctor Crile and his associates.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. S. WOOLFORD, M. D.,
Secretary.